

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4125

INFO DEA HQS WASHDC PRIORITY

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S/NM FOR AMB VANCE; AID/SER/INC FOR WAMPLER; DEA FOR EOI
CUSACK; AID/CM/ROD FOR HEISHMAN; AIDGC FOR FINK

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, MEX

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR STOL AIRCRAFT INSTRUCTOR/PILOT

REF: A) TELECON FORD/MCBEE, B) TELECON ALBERTI/DUGSTAD,
C) STATE 63622, D) MEXICO 2295

1. SUMMARY: STEERING COMMITTEE REQUESTS TDY SERVICES, EITHER THROUGH U.S.G. OR GOM/AG CONTRACT, OF STOL (SHORT-TAKE-OFF/LANDING) FLIGHT INSTRUCTOR TO RESUME GROUND SCHOOL AND FLIGHT TRAINING OF AG PILOTS ASSIGNED THE PILATUS TURBO-PORTER PROGRAM, WHICH WAS SUSPENDED SINCE CRASH OF XC-BIB ON 20 FEB 76. REQUEST ASSIGNMENT ASAP AFTER EASTER HOLIDAYS FOR A TDY PERIOD NTE THIRTY DAYS. END SUMMARY.

2. TDY DEA PILATUS TURBO-PORTER INSTRUCTOR HAROLD KENT NOTIFIED AVIATION ADVISOR JOHN FORD ON 30 MARCH 76 THAT HE DID NOT CONSIDER HIMSELF QUALIFIED TO COMPLETE TRAINING OF THE PILOTS SELECTED FOR THE AG/STOL PROGRAM. MR KENT'S DECISION, WHICH WE MUST RESPECT, WILL RESULT IN A DELAY IN THE PILATUS TURBO-PORTER PROGRAM; HOWEVER, STEERING COMMITTEE APPRECIATES HIS CANDID EVALUATION WHICH REFLECTS FAVORABLY UPON HIS PROFESSIONAL JUDGEMENT. DURING MOST RECENT TALKS WITH AG SENIOR STAFF MEMBER SOLIS, HE INDICATED THEIR CONCERN TO RESUME AND COMPLETE THE STOL TRAINING PROGRAM IN ORDER TO COMMIT THE REMAINING STOL AIRCRAFT TO TACTICAL
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MISSIONS AND BEGIN TO COMPILE USAGE DATA.

3. AVIATION ADVISOR FORD HAS PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE OF A HIGHLY-QUALIFIED STOL/PILATUS TURBO-PORTER INSTRUCTOR/PILOT AND RECENTLY ESTABLISHED TELEPHONE CONTACT ON A NON-COMMITTAL BASIS TO ASCERTAIN AVAILABILITY AND OTHER FACTORS RELEVANT TO CONTRACTUAL SERVICES. WILLIAM E. MCSHANE, U.S. CITIZEN, 55 CORTE REAL NO 1, GREENDRAE, CALIF 94904, TELEPHONE 415-461-3172, INDICATED HIS AVAILABILITY. MCSHANE HAS 12,600 HOURS OF FIXED WING FLYING EXPERIENCE, 6,100 OF WHICH ARE IN STOL AIRCRAFT. FURTHER, MCSHANE INDICATED HIS WILLINGNESS TO WORK UNDER CONTRACT WITH U.S.G. OR THE GOM/AG OFFICE. STEERING COMMITTEE DISCUSSED MOST EXPEDIENT MEANS TO OBTAIN POSSIBLE MCSHANE SERVICES IN MEXICO WITH AG SENIOR STAFF. THEY JUDGE THAT DIRECT CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENT WITH GOM/AG ON A REIMBURSEABLE BASIS UNDER THE TERMS OF THE 4 FEB 76 AGREEMENT COULD BE NEGOTIATED IF AN AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT IS NOT REQUIRED.

4. THE OTHER VIABLE OPTION IS A PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACT (PSC) NEGOTIATED THROUGH CM/ROD. IN ANY EVENT, MCSHANE NEEDS A RECURRENCE CHECK RIDE IN THE PILATUS PORTER. MISSION HAS INFORMATION THAT U.S.G. AGENCY, DEPT OF INTERIOR, NATIONAL GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, IN DENVER, COLORADO, HAS A PILATUS PORTER AND CONTACT IS KEN WATSON, 303-234-2349.

5. FYI: MCSHANE INDICATED HE WOULD ACCEPT \$3,000 SALARY FOR THE THIRTY DAY PERIOD, PLUS PER DIEM EXPENSES FOR FOOD AND LODGING PLUS AIR TRAVEL TO AND FROM RESIDENCE, DOMESTIC U.S. LOCAL TRAVEL EXPENSES AND PER DIEM RELATED TO STOL RECURRENCE CHECK AND ANY TRAVEL EXPENSES IN MEXICO AS RESULT OF TRAINING PROGRAM. WE ESTIMATE THE ENTIRE COST WILL NOT EXCEED \$6,000.

6. ACTION REQUESTED; THAT STATE/DEA SPECIAL ACTION GROUP/ MEXICO EXPLORE ABOVE AND ANY OTHER OPTIONS TO OBTAIN TDY SERVICES OF MCSHANE ASAP AFTER EASTER HOLIDAYS. ADVISE. THOMPSON

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